



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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August 25, 2004

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist 

SUBJECT: Site Inspection, Western States Minerals Corp., Drum Mine,
M/027/007, Millard County, Utah

Date of Inspection: June 29, 2004
Time of Inspection: About 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Conditions: Cloudy with rain showers, 80's
Participants: Sheri Wysong and Jerry Mansfield, Fillmore BLM; Lynn Kunzler and Paul Baker, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

We wanted to see if there was additional reclamation work that should be done with limited funds that are available.

Observations:

There are a few places, such as the access road, where vegetation is dominated by weeds, especially halogeton, but in general, revegetation is excellent. The dominant species in most of the reclaimed area is forage kochia (Photo 1). Other species include shadscale, fourwing saltbush, and Indian ricegrass (Photo 2).

The pond is shown in Photo 3. It contains some old, deteriorated barrels and some PVC pipe, but we did not look at the barrels to see what they may have once contained. There is a nicely vegetated channel leading away from the pond (Photo 4), but it is elevated enough that I don't believe water in the pond would ever reach this level. There is obviously nothing growing in the bottom of the pond which could be the result of salt accumulations or because of something toxic from the barrels. We saw no dead wildlife at the pond.

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Photos 5-7 are panorama views of the site. The grading and vegetation blend very well with adjacent areas.

Although we visited most parts of the main mine area, I understand there are a few outlying areas where we did not go.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

No remedial work should be done on the majority of the mine site. It would be best if the pond could be filled so the area has positive drainage and water does not accumulate in this area. If this is done, I would like to see as little disturbance as possible in nearby areas. Mr. Mansfield and Ms. Wysong said there are some springs in the area, so, even if wildlife are using the pond as a water source, eliminating the pond would not be to their detriment.

I also understand there are some additional disturbances away from the main part of the mine and that these may need some additional work. We did not examine these sites.

PBB:jb

cc: Sheri Wysong, BLM, Fillmore FO (UTU-063447)

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ATTACHMENT

Photographs

M/027/007, Drum Mine, Western States Minerals

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Photo 1. Forage kochia is the dominant species in the reclaimed area.



Photo 2. Another view of some of the vegetation on the reclaimed mine site.



Photo 3. The pond. Note the deteriorated barrels just to the left of center at the edge of the pond.



Photo 4. A swale leading away from the pond.



Photo 5. Panorama looking approximately west through northwest.



Photo 6. Panorama looking approximately northwest through northeast,



Photo 7. Closer view of part of the area shown in Photo 6.